

REMARKS

Claims 8, 9, 15, 16, 18-23, 32-35 and 38-40 have been indicated as being allowable in the Office Action. All of the other claims have been canceled.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 2-7, 10-11, 13-14, 17, 29-31, and 36-37 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement.

Claims 2-7, 10-11, 13-14, 17, 29-31, and 36-37 have been canceled. Therefore, this rejection is moot. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 2-7, 10-11, 13-14, 17, 29-31, and 36-37 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 2-7, 10-11, 13-14, 17, 29-31 and 36-37 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of U.S. patent 5,675,672 to Nakabayashi and Japanese Patent Publication 10-69536 to Nakamura et al. (hereinafter "Nakamura").

Claims 2-7, 10-11, 13-14, 17, 29-31, and 36-37 have been canceled. Therefore, this rejection is moot. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 2-7, 10-11, 13-14, 17, 29-31, and 36-37 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of U.S. patent 5,675,672 to Nakabayashi and Japanese Patent Publication 10-69536 to Nakamura et al. is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the allowance of claims 8, 9, 15, 16, 18-28, 32-35 and 38-40. Since claims 8, 9, 15, 16, 18-28, 32-35 and 38-40 are the sole remaining claims in this application, allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

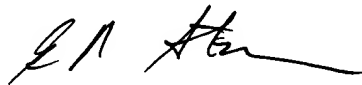
Therefore, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance, which action, at an early date, is respectfully requested.

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, the applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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